

# Press release

DATE: 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

## **NEDRAILWAYS ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF ABELLIO LONDON AND ABELLIO SURREY**

- **New Brand**
- **New Buses**
- **New Route**

From Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October, Travel London and Travel Surrey will be rebranded as Abellio London and Abellio Surrey. The roll out of the new brands coincides with two other keynote moments for the company: the start of a new route, the 407 between Sutton and Caterham, and the delivery of 13 new Enviro 200s and the company's 100<sup>th</sup> Enviro 400 double deck.

The decision to rebrand was taken soon after the acquisition of the business by NedRailways in June this year, because the existing names were part of a large and pre-existing brand structure. The new name is derived from another of NedRailways businesses, the German bus and rail company Abellio.

Commenting on the change, the Managing Director of Abellio London Paul McGowan said, "We are now a firmly established part of a forward thinking European business, NedRailways, and the change of name reflects this status. Our rebranding programme has started and the first vehicles with the new livery will start to appear on the streets of London and Surrey over the coming weeks."

"This is an exciting day for the company. Not only do we now have a clear identity on which to build for future success, we are about to start operating an important new route, the 407, and also take delivery of our 100<sup>th</sup> Enviro 400 double deck at our depot in Battersea."

To mark the handover of the 100th Alexander Dennis built Enviro 400 together with the 13 ADL Enviro 200 vehicles, Paul McGowan, MD of Abellio London will receive the new vehicles from Arthur Whiteside, Sales Director at Alexander Dennis on Friday 30th October at an event at the Dennis factory in Guildford. Abellio London has established a strong working relationship with ADL and Arthur commented "We are delighted to be working with Abellio London to supply them a further batch of new vehicles for their new routes. The delivery of the 100th Enviro 400 to Abellio London is a major milestone for us and we look forward to continuing to deliver further vehicles to them in the future"

Dominic Booth, Chief Operating Officer of NedRailways added, "We have been working very closely with Paul and the team since June in order to introduce the new brand without distracting attention from the priority job of delivering a safe, punctual and reliable service for

passengers. The new route is fantastic news and the fleet announcement underlines our ongoing commitment to invest in new vehicles. These latest buses meet Euro V emissions standards, helping us support TfL in its efforts to move towards a lower carbon future for London.”

End

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **Abellio London & Abellio Surrey**

Formerly Travel London and Travel Surrey, the companies currently run services across Central London, South London and Surrey with 1,600 staff, and a fleet of 500 buses operating out of 6 depots (Battersea, Walworth, Beddington, Twickenham, Hayes, Byfleet).

Photos of the new vehicles and livery will be available from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at the following website [www.abellio.co.uk/abelliopresrelease](http://www.abellio.co.uk/abelliopresrelease) .

#### **NedRailways**

NedRailways is a wholly owned subsidiary of NS (Dutch Railways) aimed at acquiring and operating multimodal passenger transport franchises outside the Netherlands. NedRailways’ aim is to become a major player in the European passenger transport market and be recognised for standards of excellence in customer service and cooperation with stakeholders and industry partners.

As a subsidiary of Dutch Railways, NedRailways is able to draw on decades of experience and expertise from a company which operates reliable, punctual and innovative rail and bus services in one of the highest density transport networks on the continent. This experience is shared with NedRailways operating companies through a highly structured programme which facilitates and drives the exchange of international best practice between its businesses.

NedRailways currently operates rail services in the UK through Merseyrail and Northern Rail, in an equal joint venture with Serco. In 2008 NedRailways also commenced bus services in the Czech Republic through the acquisition of local operator Probo Trans Beroun, and the German bus and rail market through the acquisition of Abellio. In June 2009 NedRailways acquired the former London and SE bus businesses of National Express, Travel London & Travel Surrey, now known as Abellio London and Abellio Surrey.

Key facts and figures about NedRailways’ businesses

#### **Northern Rail**

Regional and suburban rail across Northern England

- 4,700 employees
- 230,000 passengers per day
- Contract renewal 2013

#### **Merseyrail**

Suburban transport in and around Liverpool

- 1,200 employees
- 110,000 passengers per day
- Contract renewal 2028

**Probo Trans Beroun**

Bus operations outside Prague

- 120 buses on 70 routes
- 17,500 passengers per day
- 200 employees
- Fully owned by NedRailways

**Abellio (Germany)**

Bus and rail operations in Hessen, North Rhine Westphalia, Sachsen

- 1,000 employees
- 23,000 passengers per day (rail)
- 600 buses, 40 trains

**NS Dutch Railways (parent company)**

Core passenger rail network (NS), and regional rail & bus services (through Syntus and Qbuzz)

- 28,000 employees
- 1.2m passengers per day
- Contract renewal 2015

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